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PATENT

Atty Docket No.: 200309497-1
App. Ser. No.: 10/797,200

JUN 02 2008

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find a listing of the claims below, with the statuses of the claims shown in parentheses. This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting a degradation of quality of service in a multicast tree in an application layer multicast network, the method comprising:

detecting at a child node in the multicast tree a degradation of quality of service associated with a service being received at the child node; [[and]]

determining whether the degradation of quality of service is resulting from a child-parent link or an upstream link to the child-parent link in the multicast tree;

selecting a new parent node for the child node in response to detecting the degradation of quality of service is resulting from the child-parent link; and

selecting a new parent node for a child node incident to the upstream link in response to detecting the degradation of quality of service is resulting from the upstream link.

2-3 Canceled.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

transmitting a complaint to the parent node, the complaint indicating a degradation of quality of service at the child node;

receiving a list of a set of candidate nodes in response to the degradation of quality of service resulting from the child-parent link; and

selecting one of the candidate nodes as a new parent node for the child node.

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5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising constructing a new service path in the multicast tree including the child node and the new parent node.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein constructing a new service path further comprises:

establishing a connection to the new parent node while maintaining a connection to the parent node;

synchronizing data received from the parent node and the new parent node; and
terminating the connection to the parent node.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein selecting one of the candidate nodes as a new parent node for the child node comprises:

measuring distances to each of the candidate nodes;

determining a metric associated with the quality of service and each candidate node;

and

selecting one of the candidate nodes that is closest to the child node and that is operable to satisfy at least one quality of service characteristic.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein each of the candidate nodes is physically close to the child node.

9. (Original) The method of claim 4, comprising:

determining whether the complaint timed out;

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retransmitting the complaint to the parent node in response to the complaint timing out.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting at a child node a degradation of quality of service comprises detecting a measured quality of service characteristic associated with the received service falling below a predetermined threshold.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting at a child node a degradation of quality of service comprises detecting degradation of quality of service as perceived by a user at the child node.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein quality of service includes at least one of a metric associated with processing data at a node receiving the service and a metric associated with transmitting data for the service between nodes in the multicast tree.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining at the parent node whether quality of service associated with the service is degraded;

transmitting a complaint to the parent node's parent node in the multicast tree indicating a degradation of quality of service at the parent node in response to determining at the parent node that the quality of service is degraded; and

requesting a list of a set of candidate nodes from a global information table in response to determining at the parent node that the quality of service is not degraded, wherein

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each of the candidate nodes is operable to provide the service to the child node and is physically close to the child node.

14. (Original) A method of determining location of degradation of quality of service in a multicast tree in an application layer multicast network, the method comprising:

receiving a complaint from a child node at a parent node in the multicast tree, the complaint indicating a degradation of quality of service of a service being received at the child node; and

determining whether a cause of the degradation of quality of service is located in an upstream link or is located at a child-parent link.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein determining whether a cause of the degradation of quality of service is located in an upstream link or is located at a child-parent link comprises:

determining at the parent node whether quality of service associated with the service being received at the child node is degraded;

transmitting a complaint to the parent node's parent node in the multicast tree indicating a degradation of quality of service at the parent node in response to determining at the parent node that the quality of service is degraded; and

requesting a list of a set of candidate nodes from a global information table in response to determining at the parent node that the quality of service is not degraded, wherein each of the candidate nodes is operable to provide the service to the child node and is physically close to the child node.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein requesting a list of a set of candidate nodes from a global information table comprises transmitting location information for the child node to a distributed hash table overlay network storing the global information table.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the global information table includes at least location information and information associated with services provided by nodes in the application layer multicast network.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the global information table is stored in a plurality of distributed hash table nodes in the distributed hash table overlay network, such that each distributed hash table node stores information for nodes physically close in an underlying physical network.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein requesting a list of a set of candidate nodes from the global information table comprises hashing a landmark vector of the child node to identify a distributed hash table node to transmit a request for a set of candidate nodes for the child node.

20. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the global information table stores information for nodes transmitting a complaint, the method comprising:

searching the global information table for the set of candidate nodes such that the set of candidate nodes does not include a node that transmitted a complaint.

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21. (Currently Amended) A method of determining whether to reconfigure a multicast tree in an application layer multicast network, the method comprising:

detecting an occurrence of a predetermined condition in the application multicast network, wherein the predetermined condition is stored in a global information table stored in distributed hash table nodes in the network; [and]

determining whether to reconfigure the multicast tree in response to detecting the occurrence of the predetermined condition, wherein determining whether to reconfigure the multicast tree comprises determining whether reconfiguring the multicast tree improves quality of service for a node in the multicast tree; and

reconfiguring the multicast tree in response to determining that reconfiguring the multicast tree improves quality of service for a node in the multicast tree.

22-23. (Cancelled).

24. (Currently Amended) A node in a multicast tree, the node comprising:

means for detecting a degradation of quality of service associated with a service being received at the node; and

means for transmitting a complaint to a parent node of the node in the multicast tree, the complaint indicating a degradation of quality of service at the child node, wherein the multicast tree includes a service path comprising a source node, the parent node and the node, and the parent node is an immediate parent node to the node such that data for a service is transmitted in the service path directly from the parent node to the node.

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25. (Original) The node of claim 24, further comprising:

means for receiving a list of a set of candidate nodes in response to the degradation of quality of service resulting from a child-parent link; and

means for selecting one of the candidate nodes as a new parent node for the child node.

26. (Original) The node of claim 25, further comprising:

means for receiving notification of an occurrence of a predetermined condition; and

means for determining whether to reconfigure the multicast tree in response to the occurrence of the predetermined condition.

27. (Original) A parent node connected to a child node in a multicast tree, the parent node comprising:

means for receiving a complaint from the child node, the complaint indicating a degradation of quality of service of a service being received at the child node; and

means for determining whether quality of service associated with the service is degraded at the parent node;

means for transmitting a complaint to the parent node's parent node in the multicast tree indicating a degradation of quality of service at the parent node in response to determining at the parent node that the quality of service is degraded; and

means for requesting a list of a set of candidate nodes from a global information table in response to determining at the parent node that the quality of service is not degraded,

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wherein each of the candidate nodes is operable to provide the service to the child node and is physically close to the child node.

28. (Original) The parent node of claim 27, further comprising:

means for hashing location information for the child node to identify a location in a distributed hash table overlay network storing the global information table; and

means for transmitting the location information with a request for a list of a set of candidate nodes with the location information to the identified location.

29. (Original) The parent node of claim 28, wherein the global information table includes at least location information and information associated with services provided by nodes in a network including the multicast tree.

30. (Original) The parent node of claim 29, wherein the global information table is stored in a plurality of distributed hash table nodes in the distributed hash table overlay network, such that each distributed hash table node stores information for nodes physically close in the network.

31. (Currently Amended) Computer software embedded on a tangible computer readable medium, the computer software comprising instructions performing:

detecting at a child node in a multicast tree a degradation of quality of service associated with a service being received at the child node; [[and]]

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determining whether the degradation of quality of service is resulting from a child-parent link or an upstream link to the child-parent link in the multicast tree;

selecting a new parent node for a child node incident to the upstream link in response to detecting the degradation of quality of service is resulting from the upstream link; and

selecting a new parent node for the child node in response to detecting the degradation of quality of service is resulting from the child-parent link.

32-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Original) The computer software of claim 31 comprising instructions performing:

transmitting a complaint to the parent node, the complaint indicating a degradation of quality of service at the child node;

receiving a list of a set of candidate nodes in response to the degradation of quality of service resulting from the child-parent link; and

selecting one of the candidate nodes as a new parent node for the child node.

35. (Currently Amended) Computer software embedded on a tangible computer readable, the computer software comprising instructions performing:

detecting an occurrence of a predetermined condition in the application multicast network, wherein the predetermined condition is stored in a global information table stored in distributed hash table nodes in the network; [[and]]

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determining whether to reconfigure the multicast tree in response to detecting the occurrence of the predetermined condition;

determining whether reconfiguring the multicast tree improves quality of service for a node in the multicast tree; and

reconfiguring the multicast tree in response to determining that reconfiguring the multicast tree improves quality of service for a node in the multicast tree.

36. (Cancelled).